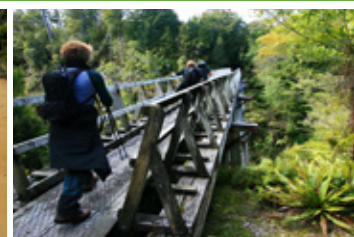




# HUMP RIDGE TRACK - PRIME

## ITINERARY



Situated on the south-west corner of New Zealand's South Island, the Tuatapere Hump Ridge Track is 3-day loop walk that takes hikers along the south coast of New Zealand, up to the sub-alpine zone of the Hump Ridge, and over historic viaducts in the heart of native forest. There are commanding views of the south coast, Lake Poteriteri, Lake Hauroko and mountain ranges deep in Fiordland National Park. Walk through 13 marine coastal terraces in the Waitutu Forest, which Dr David Bellamy described as "probably the most important forest in the world". This ancient terraced forest rises out of the sea with each level being 100,000 years older than the last. It remains pristine and unspoiled.

LENGTH	3.5 days
GRADE	C (sub alpine hiking and uneven terrain)
START	Day 1: Pre night Tuatapere Day 2: 8.00am. Track Transport leaves Tuatapere Hump Ridge office (31 Orawia Rd, Tuatapere) for Rarakau Car Park. (Transfers available from Queenstown/Te Anau and Invercargill the day before, please enquire)
FINISH	Day 4: Track transport departs Rarakau Car Park at 2.30pm for Tuatapere.
DEPARTURES	<b>2023</b> Oct: 25   Nov: 1, 5, 9, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29   Dec: 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 27, 28, 31 <b>2024</b> Jan: 3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, 28, 31   Feb: 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28   Mar: 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27, 31   Apr: 3, 7, 10, 18  * Groups of 8 or more may depart daily except Friday.
PRICE	<b>1 June 2023 - 31 May 2024</b> Adult ex Tuatapere NZD \$895.00 Private room upgrade (per room, for both nights) NZD \$300.00 (maximum 2 guests per room) Transfer from Tuatapere to Rarakau car park (return, per person) NZD \$45.00 Transfer from Te Anau (return, per person) NZD \$110.00 Transfer from Invercargill (return, per person) NZD \$110.00 Transfer from Queenstown (return, per person) NZD \$195.00 (for groups of 4 or more) Single supplement (individual travellers - pre night accommodation) NZD \$30.00

Recommended minimum age: 11 years. Any person under 18 years must be accompanied by an adult. Children book at same rate as adults.

### "AWESOME HIKE

While this is a challenging track. The fact you don't need to pack cooking equipment and can buy dehydrated meals, snacks and beer wine etc at lodges makes it much more manageable. You get a comfy bed and porridge for breakfast. Hiking in style. First day includes a steep climb but views or enchanted forest make it worth while. At the end of day two you may be lucky enough to see or swim with hectors dolphins. Lodges and hosts are great with options to upgrade to own room. Thoroughly enjoyed all 3 days of hiking.

~ GriffinLeanne - March 2018, **TripAdvisor**

### "EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS"

I did the walk last weekend and highly recommend it. The walk itself is amazing and so diverse. Loved the bush, the spectacular views, the beaches. Even saw Hector Dolphins.

~ MarGrant - Queenstown, November 2017, **Trip Advisor**

# ITINERARY

## DAY 1 ARRIVE AT TUATAPERERE

Tuatapere is situated 100km from Invercargill and 100km from Te Anau on the Southern Scenic Route. Return transfers from Invercargill, Queenstown or Te Anau can be arranged if needed. Times will be advised. Otherwise make your own way to Tuatapere, arriving at your accommodation at the Last Light Lodge in the evening. Timings are on Page 3 and will be confirmed with you.

## DAY 2 RARAKAU CAR PARK - OKAKA LODGE

7-9 hours/22km hiking

Your packs (12kg max) need to be at the Hump Ridge office by 8.00am to meet the helicopter. Track Transport leaves the office at 8.00am from Tuatapere to Rarakau. If taking your own vehicle we recommend the same departure time however please be on the track by 9.30am at the latest.

From the Rarakau car park head back along the road for 200m to the start of the track. Walk along cliff tops and descend to Bluecliffs Beach. Cross the swing bridge at the Waikoau River and onto Bluecliffs Beach. Follow the beach (where Hector's dolphins may be spotted in the surf) for 3 km until you come to a stoney creek and the swingbridge, where you head up the road to Track Burn which is the 7km mark.

Re-entering the bush, the track enters Fiordland National Park and climbs steadily toward Stag Point. Kākā and kākāriki can often be heard and sometimes seen in the forest here.

Stag Point provides trampers with a stunning view out across Te Waewae Bay to Stewart Island. From here it is a short climb to reach the summit ridge and Okaka Lodge at 800m. The additional loop track which circles around the tors and tarns further up the ridge takes about 45 minutes and offers stunning 360 degree views of southern Fiordland, the Waitutu Forest and the Southern Ocean. The entertaining alpine parrots, kea, are often present in this area.

## DAY 3 OKAKA LODGE - PORT CRAIG LODGE

7 - 9 hours/20km hiking

Heading along the summit ridge, the track descends the Hump Ridge and spectacular views are available along the tops. The track eventually reenters the bush and towering rimu, miro rata and totara trees provide a good example of the mixed beech/podocarp forest typical of the Waitutu area. Reaching sea level, pass through private Maori land before crossing historic wooden viaducts. Following the track of an old railway, reach Port Craig Lodge and explore the remnants of the old Port Craig sawmill town. A sheltered sandy bay is five minutes walk from the Lodge. Hector's dolphins are frequent visitors here and occasionally a seal or penguin can be spotted basking on the breakwater.

## DAY 4 PORT CRAIG LODGE - RARAKAU CAR PARK

5 - 7 hours/20km hiking

The track winds through native bush and over a series of bluffs before crossing the magnificent Blowholes Beach. Follow the south coast, crossing another smaller beach before climbing back to the coastal terrace and past the Okaka track junction. Re-crossing Bluecliffs Beach, the track returns to Rarakau Car Park.

The Track Transport departs Rarakau Car Park at 2.30pm for Tuatapere. Private vehicles depart at leisure. There is car park koha (donation) of \$5 for local landowners.



# LIFE ON THE TRAIL

## GRADE C

- Up to 9 hrs of physical activity per day.
- At times carrying a backpack of 5-7kgs.
- Tracks generally in good condition.
- Altitude gains of up to 800m on harder days.
- No hiking experience necessary.
- Reasonable standard of fitness required



No previous hiking experience is required, but you need to be reasonably fit and enthusiastic.

You will be carrying a medium sized daypack for up to 6-9 hours. The first day on the trail you climb over 800m.

The second day the track is a mixture of boardwalk and steps, natural tracks and remains of the old tramline. The descent from the Hump Ridge is steep and can be muddy at times. This section of the track is currently under going Great Walk upgrades.



## FOOD

Creamy oat porridge is provided for you while on the track, and also a hot breakfast on the first morning at your Tuatapere accommodation. All Prime walkers need to provide their own lunch, snacks and drinks (complimentary tea and coffee is available at the lodges). Dinner (self - prepared) provided is a choice of freeze dried dehydrated meal pouches, (gluten free, vegetarian and vegan available).

Drinking water is available at both Lodges and most streams are safe to drink from (please note you should purify or boil your water to make sure it is safe). Additional NZ beers and wines are available for sale at the lodges.

NB: Both Lodges are licensed so there is no BYO.

## TRANSPORT OPTIONS

Return transfers are available from Tuatapere, Queenstown, Te Anau and Invercargill, and can be booked through us.

Tuatapere: to the start of the track at Rarakau on Day 2

Queenstown: The Tracknet shuttle departs Queenstown at 4.30pm (arriving in Mossburn at 6.15pm), to connect with the Hump Ridge Shuttle to Tuatapere (arriving 7.15pm).

Te Anau: the Hump Ridge Shuttle departs from Te Anau for Tuatapere at 4.30pm, arriving at 5.30pm.

Invercargill: the Hump Ridge Shuttle departs Invercargill at 12.30 and 4.30pm, to Tuatapere. If returning to Invercargill, the shuttle departs Tuatapere at 3.30pm. Please contact us if you would like to book an Invercargill transfer.

Shuttle bookings are essential, as the shuttle does not run if there are no bookings for a particular day.

## ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation on the track is provided in modern backcountry lodges featuring gas heating and cooking, solar lighting and flush toilets. Bedding, linen, towels and hot showers are provided. Rooms are quad accommodation with pillows, fitted sheet, sleep sheet and covered duvet. Private premium rooms upgrades are available for NZ\$300.00 per room, for both nights. These rooms accommodate a maximum of two people, either double or twin king singles. All cutlery, utensils and bedding are provided. \*Pre tour accommodation - in Tuatapere provides twin share and double rooms with a shared bathroom. Single hikers/rooms will attract a \$30 single supplement fee.

# LIFE ON THE TRAIL

## ADDITIONAL COSTS

The Lodges have a licensed bar and shop where you can purchase a range of New Zealand wine and beer, as well as additional snacks and refreshments. Take some cash or a credit/debit card (sorry, no EFTPOS available).

Non-walker helicopter transfers between lodges are charged per sector. Please contact us for price.

## Price includes

- One night pre-walk B&B accommodation in Tuatapere at the Last Light Lodge
- Heli packing (max 12kg) Day 1 Rarakau to Okaka
- Multishare accommodation at Okaka and Port Craig Lodges - Linen Provided
- Hot showers with towel supplied
- A wide selection of freeze dried dehydrated meal pouches - for the main meal (self-prepared - gluten free, vegetarian or vegan)
- Creamy oat porridge & brown sugar for breakfast each morning

## BOOKING CONDITIONS

If the management/operator declares the walk unfit due to severe weather and track conditions, a full refund will apply. The management/operator reserves the right to alter prices, times, itineraries and, if necessary, arrange alternative transportation and walking arrangements.

## Payment

For bookings 4 or months in advance of the departure a 25% deposit can be paid with the remainder due 95 days prior to your trip. For bookings within 4 months of the departure, full payment is required.

## Cancellations

If you wish to cancel a booking for any reason, including medical, the cancellation must be forwarded in writing.

8 weeks or more - cancellation fee is 25% of the full trip cost

8 to 4 weeks - cancellation fee is 50% of the full trip cost

Within 4 weeks no refund available

No refund on any portion of the trip can be given after departure.

## Travel Insurance

We suggest clients take out comprehensive travel insurance.

## Notes

This trip is run in conjunction with another operator.

Any person under 18 years must be accompanied by an adult. The track is not recommended for children younger than 10. If the track is closed due to bad weather or track conditions, a full refund will be given. Cancelled groups will be able to depart on the track only if there are vacancies available once the track reopens. This is a wilderness trip with an element of danger attached. The operators and its agents will not be liable for any injury, damage, loss or delay by reason of weather or defect.

# PACKING LIST

Your personal belongings will be carried on the first day only, by helicopter, arriving at your destination before you, so that you will be able to walk carrying the minimum of weight. On Day 3 and 4 you will need to carry your pack so please keep the weight to a minimum. The maximum allowance of weight for the helicopter luggage is 12kg. In the rare event of weather conditions preventing prompt delivery of your luggage, emergency equipment and supplies are available at the huts.

## ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- ☐ Pair of shorts/trousers (quick-dry highly recommended)
- ☐ Polar fleece jacket or top
- ☐ 2 sets of Woollen (merino) or polypropylene thermal underwear (top and bottom)
- ☐ Woollen or thermal socks (three pairs), underwear and handkerchief
- ☐ Small towel or flannel
- ☐ Warm hat (fleece or woollen) and light gloves
- ☐ Waterproof raincoat with hood
- ☐ Hiking boots or strong walking shoes, preferably with ankle support
- ☐ Pair of light shoes or sandals
- ☐ T shirt for fine weather
- ☐ Change of clothes for evenings
- ☐ Day pack (20 litres) with waterproof liner

- ☐ Small personal torch or headlamp
- ☐ Water bottle
- ☐ Personal medicine and toiletries
- ☐ Second skin or Footfleece for blisters
- ☐ Insect repellent, sunscreen
- ☐ Small personal torch

## OPTIONAL ITEMS

- ☐ Camera and film/memory cards
- ☐ Gaiters, walking poles
- ☐ Sun hut and swim wear
- ☐ Money as there is an opportunity to purchase wine and beers at the lodges.

You can leave any luggage you are travelling with, but do not need for the hike, at the Hump Ridge Track Office in Tuatapere.